



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Idaho Farm Numbers Up From 2008

The number of farms and ranches in Idaho in 2009 totaled 25,500, up 300 operations from 2008 according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Total land in farms in Idaho, at 11.4 million acres, was unchanged from 2008. The average size of farm was 447 acres in 2009.

The number of farms in the United States in 2009 is estimated at 2.2 million, virtually unchanged from 2008. Total land in farms, at 919.8 million acres, decreased 110,000 acres from 2008. The average farm size was 418 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

USDA'S definition of a farm is "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

The definition of a farm was first established in 1850 and has changed nine times since. The current definition was first used for the 1974 Census.

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